

**SPA 385 /LAS 386**

**Havana: A Cultural History**

(LA) *na, npdf*

**Enrollment by application or interview. Departmental permission required.**

**Total Course Enrollment:** 15

**Professor(s):** Rubén Gallo

**Description/Objective:**

This course will offer a cultural history of how Havana evolved from a sleepy colonial city in 1900 to rising as one of the cultural and architectural capitals of Latin America and the world by the 1950s. We will study the urban development of the early 20th century, the adoption of modernism and International Style in architecture, and the tensions between private enterprise and public projects.

**Sample Reading List:**

Eduardo Luis Rodríguez

Havana: An Architectural Guide

Pedro Martínez Inclán

La Habana Actual

Rubén Gallo

Una pequeña ciudad mexicana en La Habana

John Loomis

Cuba's Forgotten Art Schools

Terence Gower

Havana Case Study

Jane C. Loeffler

The Architecture of Diplomacy

**Reading/Writing Assignments:**

Students will be asked to spend the semester researching one specific site in Havana (for instance: the Malecón, the city's sea-side drive; or Parque Lenin, a socialist-themed Central Park) in order to produce a final research paper.

**Requirements/Grading:**

Paper In Lieu Of Midterm 30%

Paper In Lieu Of Final Exam 30%

Class/Precept Participation 10%

Oral Presentation(s) 10%

Paper(s) 20%

**Class Attributes:**

International Travel Required

**Prerequisites and Restrictions:**

Fluency in Spanish required (reading and writing).

**Other Information:**

Course will be taught in Havana as part of the Princeton-in-Cuba semester abroad program.

**Schedule:**

*S01* 1:30 pm-4:20 W